



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 7
901 NORTH 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

JUL 14 2008

Wayne Gieselmann, Director
Environmental Protection Division
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wallace Building
502 East 9th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Mr. Gieselmann:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed its review of the Iowa Clean Water Act (CWA), Section 303(d) list of water quality-limited segments still requiring Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). The list was submitted by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) on October 23, 2007, and received by EPA on October 29, 2007. Subsequent to EPA initial review, IDNR re-submitted Iowa's CWA Section 303(d) list on March 12, 2008, which EPA received on March 19, 2008.

IDNR's 303(d) list submittal included:

- 1) Iowa's final 2006 CWA, Section 303(d) impaired waters list (including a list of priority waters for TMDL development),
- 2) the full Integrated Report for 2006,
- 3) IDNR's 2006 assessment and listing methodology, a summary of waters removed from Iowa's 2004 Section 303(d) list,
- 4) a CD with IDNR's assessment database (ADB+) for the 2006 Integrated Report,
- 5) a public participation responsiveness summary,
- 6) copies of all public comments, and
- 7) a response to EPA comments and questions provided during IDNR's public comment period from May 3, 2007 through June 29, 2007.

IDNR's submission is formatted consistent with EPA guidance regarding "integrated reporting" and, therefore, contains five separate categories of listing waters. There are 279 waterbody segments and 359 impairments within Category 5 of Iowa's integrated report which constitutes Iowa's list of water quality-limited segments still requiring TMDLs subject to EPA approval.


Based on its review, EPA has determined that IDNR's list of water quality-limited segments and their impairments still requiring TMDLs meets the requirement of Section 303(d)

of the CWA and EPA's implementing regulations. EPA is therefore approving Iowa's 2006 CWA, Section 303(d) list.

I congratulate you and your staff for the completion of the list development and submission process. This process requires a significant amount of staff resources and involves a complex evaluation and assessment of water quality data. We look forward to working with IDNR on the development of the 2008 Section 303(d) list in the near future.

If you would like to further discuss EPA's action, please contact me at 913-551-7401, or John DeLashmit, Chief, Water Quality Management Branch, at 913-551-7821.

Sincerely,


William A. Spratlin
Director
Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division

Enclosure